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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1A
SUBJECT	The Gabrovo Lead and Zinc Mine at Madan (Rhodope Mining Basin)	DATE DISTR.	30 October 1953
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	NO. OF PAGES	7
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		REFERENCES	

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

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1. The Gabrovo Unit (Obekt Gabrovo), a lead and zinc mine, is located one or two kilometers north of Angel Voyvoda village (N 41-49, E 25-19) and about five kilometers northeast of Gabrovo village (N 41-48, E 25-19), Madan Okoliya. The Gabrovo Unit was put into operation about 1951.
2. The Gabrovo Unit, as well as all the other mines in the Rhodope Mountains, is attached to the Gorubso Mining Enterprise in Kurdzhali. The administrative offices are located in a 3-story "T" shaped building.
3. Gorubso Personnel
3. One of the assistant managers of the Gorubso Mining Enterprise is Stefanov (fnu).
- 25X1X* [REDACTED] administrative officials of the main office:
 - a. Motin (fnu), director of the geological section, a White Russian, born about 1903; average height, stout, round face, brown hair; and
 - b. Iliev (fnu), assistant director of the geological section; born about 1908-1913; tall, average weight, long thin face, bald.
5. Many Soviets work in the main office of the Gorubso Mining Enterprise, but there are no Soviets working at the Gabrovo Unit.
6. Each of the component units of the Gorubso Mining Enterprise has its own administrative personnel.

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Personnel of the Gabrovo Unit

7. There are approximately 120 laborers at the mine, 14 of whom are experienced miners. Workers are between the ages of 20 and 40. There are no women or forced laborers.
8. In every shift, about 10 men work on the surface, 20-25 work underground, and three work in the office.

25X1X⁹. [redacted] administrative personnel of the Gabrovo Unit:

- a. Dubrovin (fnu), manager of the mine; White Russian; tall, stout, long face, blond hair, blue eyes;
- b. Ivan Nikolov, technical manager of the mine, acting manager of the mine in the absence of Dubrovin; born in Nikolaevo village, Kazanluk Okoliya, about 1933; short, slight build, reddish hair, freckled complexion;
- c. Stoyanka (lnu), typist in the mine office;
- d. Unidentified accountant, a White Russian; and
- e. Unidentified supply chief, a White Russian.

Working and Living Conditions

10. There are three shifts at the mine, from 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and unknown hours for the third shift. The mine is not in operation on Sunday.
11. About eight workers live with their families in the mine area. There is a 2-room dormitory for 20 workers at the mine which is kept in fairly clean condition. The remaining workers live in nearby villages and commute on foot.
12. Miners are issued a jacket, a pair of trousers, a pair of shoes, and a hat every year.
13. There is a restaurant at the mine where workers may buy their lunches if they do not bring their own from home. The food is fairly good. Soup costs 1.20 leva, meatless dishes cost 2.80 leva, and meat dishes cost five or six leva.
14. There is one shop which sells only cigarettes and liquor. There are no recreational facilities at the mine.
15. Common laborers working underground receive 21 leva a day. Those working on the surface receive 18 leva a day. Experienced miners work on a contract basis, but informant does not know how their pay rate is determined.
16. According to a law published in February 1953, a miner cannot leave his work without showing cause. Informant does not know the source or exact date this law was published.¹

25X1A¹⁷. [redacted] who is satisfied with his job, because of the hard work and low pay. There are no occupational diseases apparent at the mine.

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Mine Installations

18. A sketch of the Gabrovo Unit installations is enclosed herewith as Appendix A, pages 5 and 6. It is based on a freehand drawing made by informant.
19. There is one main vertical shaft at the Gabrovo Unit. A wooden elevator tower 20 meters high is erected over the shaft and adjoins a depot 35 meters long. The elevator is run by an electrically-powered motor. The electricity for operating the elevator and for lighting purposes is produced by a generator housed in a building eight by 10 meters in size; the generator is diesel-driven.
20. Clothing and mining equipment is stored in a 1-story building 30 by 10 meters in size.
21. A locksmith shop and a depot for explosives, surrounded by a tightly-coiled barbed wire entanglement two meters high, are located west of the stream shown on the sketch as Figure A. The keys to the explosives depot are kept by the Militiamen.
22. Compressed air for the air drills is produced by two compressors housed in a building 15 by five meters in size. Each compressor delivers air at seven atmospheres pressure and can maintain two air drills. The compressed air is conveyed to the main shaft by pipes having diameters of approximately eight centimeters. Secondary pipes, having the diameter of a normal pipe (sic) lead from the main pipe to each of the galleries.
23. The personnel work regarding the workers is handled in a shed four meters square.
24. The administrative offices and a restaurant are located on the first floor of a 2-story building, 30 by eight meters in size; the second floor is used as a dormitory.
25. The mine technician resides in a prefabricated house six by seven meters in size.
26. The mine manager resides in a house six meters by seven meters in size.
27. A general store and quarters for workers' families occupy the first floor of a 2-story building 30 by eight meters in size. Single workers live in a dormitory on the second floor.
28. Approximately 100 to 120 cubic meters of pine props used for shoring the galleries are stored in the open near the entrance to the shaft.
29. There are four air drills in use at the mine. Informant does not know how many may be in the storehouse. There are approximately 20 mine cars at the mine (capacity not known).
30. The mine area is reached by a road branching off the Khaskovo-Kurdzhali road at Petelevo and passing through Karamantsi (N 41-50, E 25-19) and Boyan Botevo (N 41-49, E 25-20) villages.

Mine Operation

31. A sketch of the operating area of the Gabrovo Lead and Zinc Mine is enclosed herewith as Appendix B, page 7. It is based on a freehand drawing made by informant.

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32. The experienced miners prepare holes for dynamite which is placed in position by another worker. During the blasting, the workers remain in protected places inside the gallery. There is an air shaft; it requires about half an hour for the air to be cleaned out after blasting, before work can be resumed. Mine cars are placed beneath each vertical sub-shaft for loading.
33. The filled cars are pulled to the elevator shaft by one or two workers. After being raised in the elevator box, the ore is emptied into the depot.
34. Trucks can be driven under troughs beneath the depot for filling. The ore is taken to the processing plant at Kurdzhali. Stockpiles are not maintained at the mine. The trucks used to have a capacity of four or five tons each. Sometimes eight or 10 and sometimes three to six truckloads of ore are sent daily to Kurdzhali. Informant does not know the production quota of the mine.
35. The raw ore appears to glitter when inside the shaft. The lead-bearing ore appears to shine, while the zinc-bearing ore is rather dull in appearance. There have been no cave-ins in the mine as the ore-bearing strata are very solid.

Security

36. The mining area is not a prohibited zone. Villagers come to the mine to sell foodstuffs. There are no barriers around the area.
37. There are five Militiamen stationed at the mine. They carry carbines and sub-machine guns and work in 4-hour shifts.
38. Entrance into the shaft is controlled at the elevator. Visitors who have business in the shaft are accompanied by a Militiaman.

Sabotage

39. During April and May 1953, the dynamos of the mine were burned out three times by Latyu (lnu), the technician at the power plant. He was arrested on 20 May 1953, and [REDACTED] he would soon be put on trial.
40. During April and May 1953, the hoses of the air drills were cut twice, but the culprit could not be found.

- 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment: Informant probably refers to the "Law for the Stabilization of the Labor Force" published in February 1953.

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APPENDIX A

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LEGEND

1. Wooden elevator tower.
 2. Electrically powered motor which operates the elevator.
 3. House for storing clothing and mining equipment.
 4. Locksmith shop.
 5. Explosives depot.
 6. Building housing compressors.
 7. Diesel-driven electricity generator.
 8. Personnel administration office.
 9. Administration offices for the mine; also restaurant and dormitory.
 10. Technician's house.
 11. Manager's house.
 12. General store, workers' families quarters (on first floor), and single workers' dormitory (second floor).
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- A. Stream.
 - B. Road to the Khaskovo-Kurdzhali highway.

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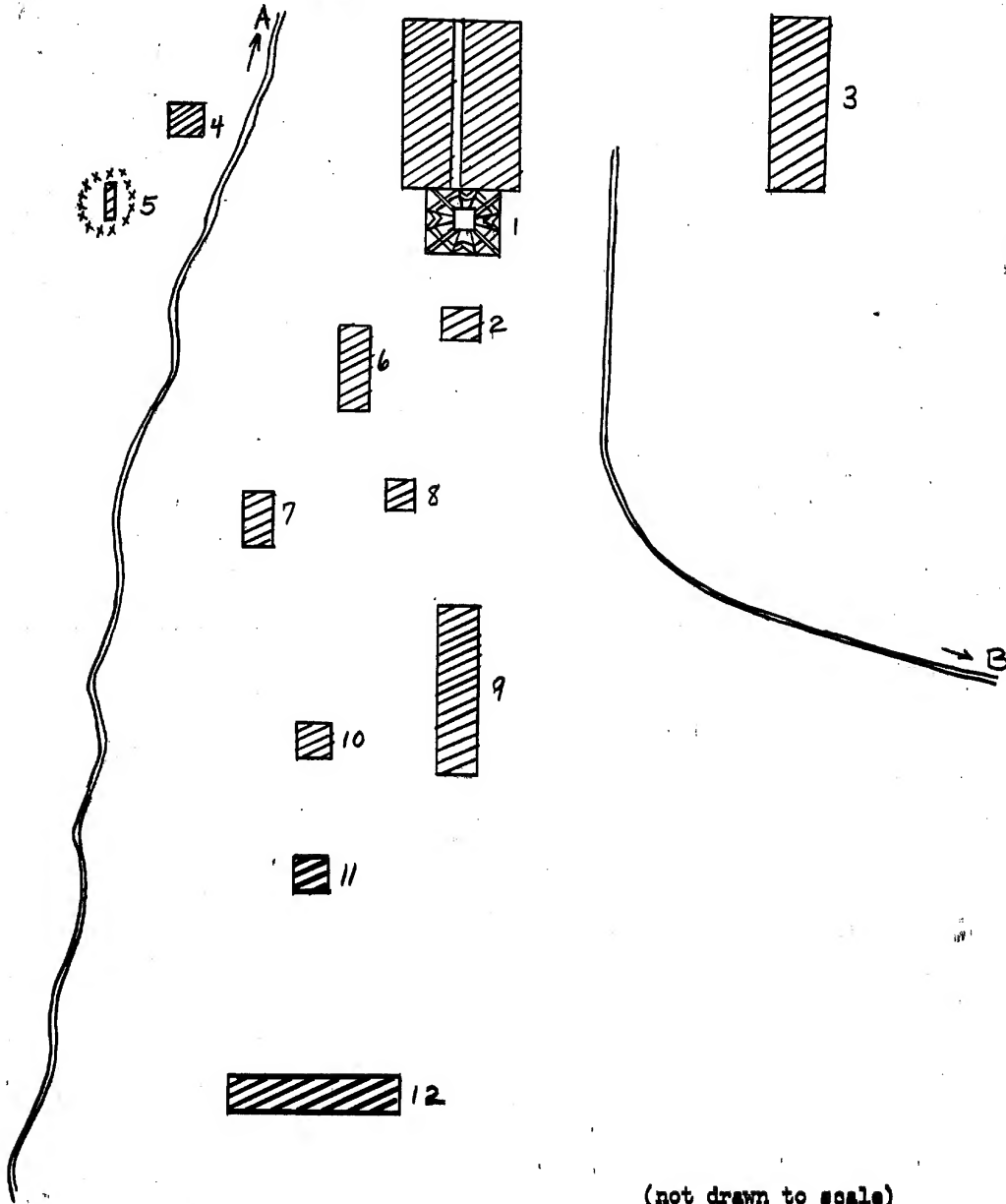
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APPENDIX A

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Gabrovo Lead and Zinc Mine



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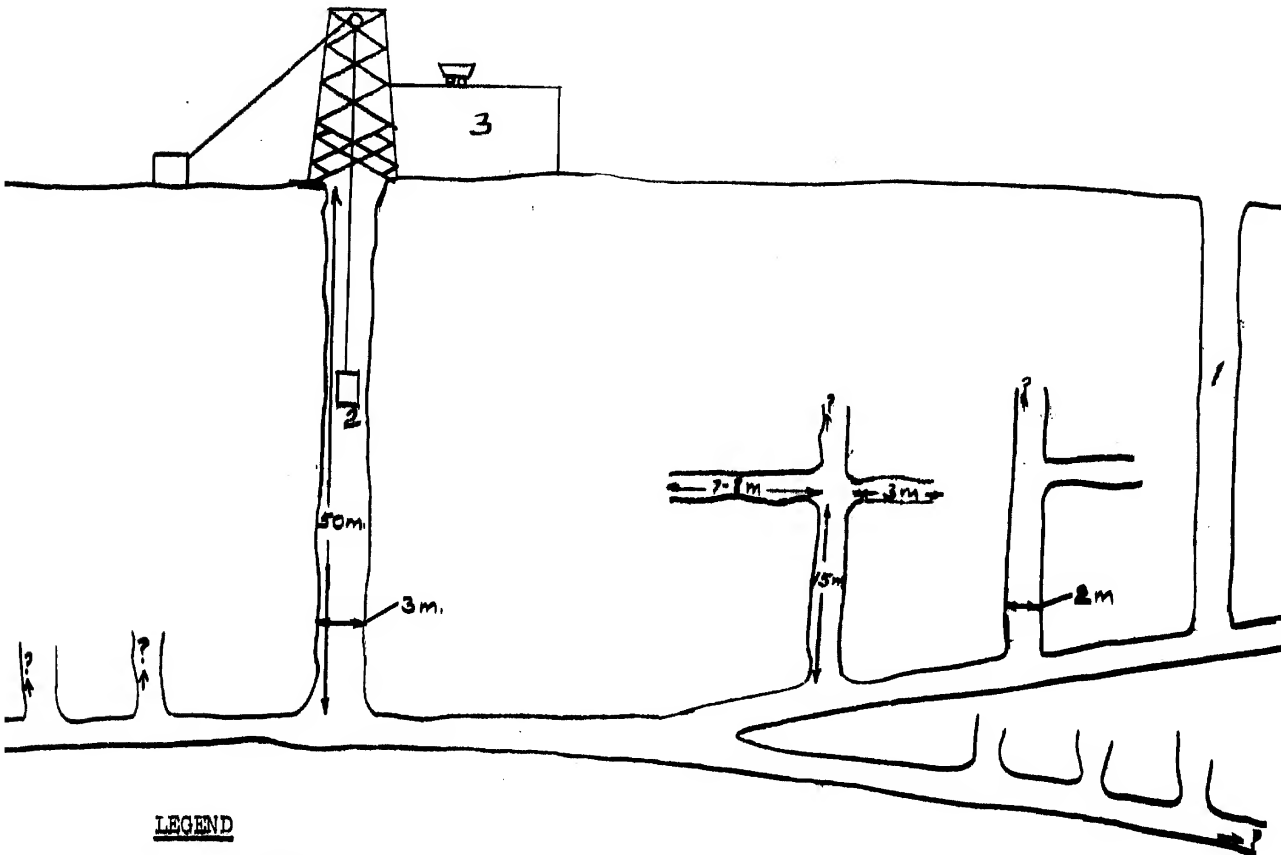
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APPENDIX B

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Gabrovo Lead and Zinc Mine

(not drawn to scale)



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- 1. Air shaft.
- 2. Elevator box.
- 3. Ore depot.

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